



# Cornell University College of Veterinary Medicine

## Pre-Vet Newsletter

April 2013



### Early Acceptance Program for Sophomores

The application for the Early Acceptance Program is available on our web site from March 1-June 1, 2013. The deadline to have the application and supporting documents into the Admissions Office is June 1, 2013.

The Early Acceptance Program is for college sophomores with 60 semester credits (by the end of this spring term). Admission to the program is rigorous and includes a written plan for the third year.

### Admissions Presentations & Tours Spring/Summer 2013

- May 10 from 3:00-5:00
- June 14 from 2:00-4:00
- July 12 from 2:00-4:00
- August 9 from 2:00-4:00

### Summer College for High School Students

- Veterinary Medicine: Conservation Medicine
- Veterinary Medicine: Equine Practice
- Animal Science: Sustainable Animal Husbandry
- Animal Science: Captive Raptor Management

All are three week courses for 3 college credits. The deadline to apply for these summer courses is May 3, 2013.

For dates and details about each course please visit the [School of Continuing Education and Summer Sessions](#)



## Building Community

Article by Carly Hodes



Photo by Lexy Roberts

From lectures to clinics, a lot of learning at Cornell's College of Veterinary Medicine comes from the classroom, but an equally important part comes from the people.

**Priyangani DeSoyza '12** is a people person. Passionate about politics and social issues, she was on the road to becoming a lawyer when her veterinary calling started to ring.

"I was falling in love with animal handling while working at zoos when I learned I'd been accepted to Cornell Law School, and ended up becoming a zookeeper instead," said DeSoyza. "I'd never considered veterinary school, but after seven years working with animals I realized it was what I most wanted to do."

So she applied to Cornell again, this time to the College of Veterinary Medicine, where she has become an exemplary leader in the student community.

Sharing her experience with student volunteers at the Janet L. Swanson Wildlife Health Center as a student coordinator, DeSoyza prepared labs where faculty teach skills relevant to zoo and wildlife medicine.

In 2010 DeSoyza took on one of the College's most challenging student leadership roles: organizing Open House, which draws around 6,000 people to the College each year. A veritable festival of veterinary medicine, Open House shares the profession with aspiring veterinarians while improving awareness of how it impacts the greater community.

Managing more than 200 volunteers, arranging exhibits, acquiring animals, writing greater than 100 letters asking for fundraising support—it's an organizational feat that would challenge even seasoned event planners, yet DeSoyza and co-chair Kristi Hulme '12 rose to the occasion.

"Being a veterinary student is such a great experience," said DeSoyza. "I love sharing it with the wider community and seeing it bring the College's community together."

The College's diverse community inspired DeSoyza to serve as President of Cornell's VOICE (Veterinary Students as One in Culture and Ethnicity), the founding chapter of a nationwide student organization that promotes multiculturalism and other forms of diversity in the veterinary profession.

Under her leadership the group ran cultural events and held popular lessons like conversational Spanish where students could get to know each other. Committed to community service, they raised funds for Haiti through an international food fair and for the Patient Assistance Fund through the inaugural Kiss the Cow competition in exchange for granting selected faculty the honor. The group also conducted educational outreach at the Lansing Residential Center for Girls, a locked full-security facility for troubled teens, sharing the company of animals with girls who either missed it or never had it.

“I love teaching and interacting with people,” said DeSoyza. “Sharing what we do is a big part of life as a veterinarian, and I look forward to being a practitioner working with clients and communities.”



### **Transfer Applications**

The deadline for transfer applications is June 1, 2013. Students who are completing their first year in a DVM degree program at an accredited AVMA veterinary college are welcome to apply. Details about the application process can be found on our web site at [www.vet.cornell.edu/admissions](http://www.vet.cornell.edu/admissions)



### **High School Students:**

#### [Frequently Asked Questions](#)

#### **How do I choose a college major?**

*Any major is acceptable, so choose one you enjoy, but your major must allow you to take many science courses during your college program. Most veterinary colleges require 10-12 college science courses.*

#### **How do I choose an undergraduate college?**

*Choosing a college is one of the most important decisions you will ever make. Your undergraduate preparation is critical to your success in gaining admission and doing well in our DVM curriculum.*

*Cornell tends to take its students from the most competitive colleges. We measure the competitiveness of a college based on “Peterson’s Guide to Four Year Colleges” entrance ranking system.*

#### **Do I need a bachelor’s degree?**

*A bachelor’s degree is not required. To enter our Doctor of Veterinary Medicine (DVM) degree program applicants need a minimum of 90 semester credits (with at least 30 credits at the upper level). If you are a sophomore or higher and have met our minimum credit and prerequisite course requirements, you are welcome to apply! For details visit [Prospective Students](#) on our web site.*